

Arguments/Remarks

Claims 1 and 3-5 have been amended. Claim 2 has been cancelled.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103

Claims 1-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Patent No. 6,743,368 to Heon Lee ("*Lee*"). Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this rejection for at least the following reasons.

As for claim 1, claim 1 has been amended to include, among other things, the features of original claim 2, which is now cancelled. Claim 1 now recites:

A substrate imprint tool, comprising:
a light transparent base;
a light blocking distal end coupled to the light transparent base to block electromagnetic radiation directed through the light transparent base;
and
a light transparent neck component formed between the light blocking distal end and the light transparent base.

In the Office Action, the Examiner alleged that *Lee* teaches an imprinting stamper comprising "a transparent base (11) and a plurality of micro-features, or necks (21), distal ends (27) and spacers (23)." See Office Action, page 2, paragraph 4. Presumably the basis for this rejection is based on FIG. 21c of *Lee*. Applicant disagrees with this interpretation of *Lee* and respectfully submits that the Examiner has mischaracterized *Lee*. In particular, Applicant submits that references 27 of *Lee* are not distal ends but instead are temporary photo resist layers (i.e., lithographically patterned) 27 that are used to form the micro-features 21, the temporary photo resist layers 27 being removed after the micro-features 21 are formed. See col. 8, lines 1-7, and FIGS. 21a to 21d. Therefore, at best, *Lee* only discloses an imprinting stamp that includes micro-features 21 (i.e., distal ends) coupled to a substrate 11 (i.e., base), wherein the micro-features 21 could be either light transparent or non-light transparent and the substrate 11 could be either light transparent or non-light transparent. Thus, *Lee* **does not** disclose a substrate imprint tool comprising "a light transparent base; a light

blocking distal end coupled to the light transparent base to block electromagnetic radiation directed through the light transparent base; and a light transparent neck component formed between the light blocking distal end and the light transparent base” as recited in amended claim 1. For at least this reason, amended claim 1 is patentable over *Lee* under 35 USC 102(e).

Further, such features are not obvious in view of *Lee* under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) because *Lee* teaches away from forming an imprint tool comprising “a light blocking distal end coupled to the light transparent base to block electromagnetic radiation directed through the light transparent base; and a light transparent neck component formed between the light blocking distal end and the light transparent base” as recited in claim 1. That is, *Lee* teaches a specific process for forming imprint features of an imprinting tool, the imprint features comprising distal ends (i.e., distal ends of the microfeatures 21) and neck components (i.e., comprising mostly of the base portions of the microfeatures 21 surrounded by spacers 23) that couples the distal ends to the base substrate 11. Because of this specific process, both the distal ends (i.e., distal ends of the microfeatures 21) and the neck components (i.e., comprising mostly of the base portions of the microfeatures 21) will be made from substantially the same material (i.e., either light transparent or non-light transparent). Thus, *Lee* teaches away from “a light blocking distal end” and “a light transparent neck component” as recited in claim 1, where the distal end and neck component are made of different materials, with the former being light blocking and the latter being light transparent.

Claims 3-11 depend from claim 1, incorporating its features. Thus, claims 3-11 are likewise patentable over *Lee*.

In the Office Action, the Examiner does not specifically indicate how each of the currently pending claims are anticipated by *Lee* or is obvious in view of *Lee*. If the Examiner chooses to maintain this rejection of claims 1 and 3-11 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 or under 35 U.S.C. § 103 then the Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner indicate, with specificity, how each of the features of each of the pending claims are anticipated by *Lee* or is obvious in view of *Lee*.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 3-11 are in condition for allowance. Early issuance of Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner has any questions, he is invited to contact the undersigned at 503-796-2099.

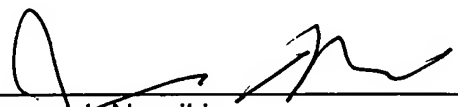
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge shortages or credit overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500393.

Respectfully submitted,
SCHWABE, WILLIAMSON & WYATT, P.C.

Dated: _____

5/3/06

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